

Appl. No : 09/357,704
Filed : August 24, 1999

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims as listed below will replace all prior listings and presentations of claims in the above-identified application. **Please amend Claims 41, 45, and 52 as indicated below**

F. 1. and 2. (CANCELLED)

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The pusher block and track combination of Claim 41 further comprising a spacer block which can be stably fitted onto said pusher block to increase the height or width to allow for use with taller or wider products, said spacer block comprising at least one flange that cooperates with said pusher block to secure said spacer block to said pusher block.

4.-40. (CANCELLED)

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pusher block and track combination comprising:

a track comprising:

a first raised rail and a second raised rail, said first raised rail and said second raised rail extending generally parallel with each other,

said first raised rail comprising a first product supporting surface and a first bottom surface, said first rail further comprising a first outside edge surface and a first inside edge surface, said first outside edge surface and said first inside edge surface extending between said first product supporting surface and said first bottom surface, ~~a first rail thickness being defined between the first product supporting surface and the first bottom surface,~~

said second raised rail comprising a second product supporting surface and a second bottom surface, said second rail further comprising a second outside edge surface and a second inside edge surface, said second outside edge surface and said second inside edge surface extending between said second product supporting surface and said second bottom surface, ~~a second rail thickness being defined between the second product supporting surface and the second bottom surface;~~

said first inside edge surface and said second inside edge surface being disposed between said first outside edge surface and said second outside edge surface,

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Contd

a pusher block comprising:

a sliding surface being adapted to slide along said first product supporting surface and said second product supporting surface,

a first outside flange disposed to a first side of said pusher block and adapted to wrap around said first outside edge surface and a portion of said first bottom surface,

a second outside flange disposed to a second side of said pusher block and adapted to wrap around said second outside edge surface and a portion of said second bottom surface,

a T-shaped boss extending below said sliding surface and comprising a first arm and a second arm, said first arm extending below said first rail and said second arm extending below said second rail, ~~said first outside flange and said first arm being spaced by a distance less than twice said first thickness and said second outside flange and said second arm being spaced by a distance less than twice said second thickness,~~

said first and second outside flanges and said first and second arms cooperating such that said pusher block covers at least a portion of said first and second product supporting surfaces, said first and second outside edge surfaces, said first and second inside edge surfaces and said first and second bottom surfaces.

42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 41, wherein an inner portion of said first bottom surface and an inner portion of said second bottom surface are lower than an outer portion of said first bottom surface and an outer portion of said second bottom surface and said first and second arms extend below said inner portions of said first and second bottom surfaces.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 42, wherein said first rail comprises a first generally vertically extending rib, said first rib being disposed between said inner portion of said first bottom surface and said outer portion of said first bottom surface, and said second rail comprises a second generally vertically extending rib, said

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second rib being disposed between said inner portion of said second bottom surface and said outer portion of said second bottom surface.

44. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 43, wherein said first rib separates said first flange from said first arm and said second rib separates said second flange from said second arm.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pusher block and track combination comprising:
a track comprising:

a first raised rail and a second raised rail, said first raised rail and said second raised rail extending generally parallel with each other,

said first raised rail comprising a first top surface, a first bottom surface, a first outside surface and a first inside surface, ~~a first rail thickness being defined between the first top surface and the first bottom surface,~~

said second raised rail comprising a second top surface, a second bottom surface, a second outside surface and a second inside surface, ~~a second rail thickness being defined between the second top surface and the second bottom surface,~~

a pusher block comprising:

a main body comprising a sliding surface adapted to slide along said first and second top surfaces,

a first outside flange, a second outside flange, a first inside flange and a second inside flange depending from said main body,

said first outside flange extending around said first outside surface and a portion of said first bottom surface,

said first inside flange extending around said first inside surface and a portion of said first bottom surface,

~~said sliding surface and said first inside flange being spaced apart by a distance less than twice said first thickness,~~

said second outside flange extending around said second outside surface and a portion of said second bottom surface,

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said second inside flange extending around said second inside surface and a portion of said second bottom surface,

said sliding surface and said second inside flange being spaced by a distance less than twice said second thickness,

such that, together, said main body, said first outside flange and said first inside flange capture said first rail and said main body, said second outside flange and said second inside flange capture said second rail.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 45, wherein said first inside flange and said second inside flange each are formed, in part, by a central stem.

47. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 46, wherein said first inside flange comprises a first arm that extends outward from said stem and said second inside flange comprises a second arm that extends outward from said stem.

48. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 47 further comprising a first chamfer between said first arm and said stem and a second chamfer between said second arm and said stem.

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 45, wherein said first outside flange and said first inside flange do not overlap in a vertical direction.

50. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 45, wherein said first inside flange and said second inside flange are completely positioned between said first outside flange and said second outside flange.

51. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The combination of Claim 45 further comprising a roll spring that rests on a rearward portion of said pusher block and that extends forward under said pusher block, a bottom surface of said inside flanges directing a portion of said roll spring downward.

52. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The combination of Claim ~~45~~41 further comprising a roll spring that rests on a rearward portion of said pusher block and that extends forward under said pusher block, a bottom surface of said arms directing a portion of said roll spring downward.